

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Cancelled).

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~424~~, wherein said negative terminal of said first piece of power feed equipment and said positive terminal of said second piece of power feed equipment are electrically connected to a ground potential.

4. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~244~~, wherein said first and second cables carry optical signals, and each includes one or more optical repeaters, ~~wherein said optical repeaters are powered exclusively by said first and said second pieces of power feed equipment.~~

5. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~244~~, wherein an end of said first cable, and an end of said second cable, enter onto ~~said third~~ first landmass at a common landing point.

6. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 5, wherein said ends of said first and second cables are routed to a cable station, and said ~~third~~ electrical power connector is located in said cable station.

7. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 6, further comprising a first plurality of data signal carrying lines, communicatively coupled to said one or more data signal carrying lines of said first cable, and further communicatively coupled to ~~said third~~ a communication device of a first communication network located on ~~said third~~ the first landmass.

8. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein said first plurality of data signal carrying lines carries electrical data signals, said one or more data signal carrying lines of said first cable carries optical data signals, and said first plurality of data signal carrying lines and said one or more data signal carrying lines of said first cable are communicatively coupled using a converter for converting between optical and electrical signals.

9. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~424~~, wherein said signal carrying lines of said first cable are communicatively isolated from said signal carrying lines of said second cable.

10. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~424~~, wherein said signal carrying lines of said first cable carry different signals from signals carried on said signal carrying lines of said second cable.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled).

13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~425~~, wherein said first and said second repeater are device is an optical repeaters, and one of said first and said second data signal carrying lines within said one of said plurality of cable segments is are an optical fiber lines.

14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~4125~~, wherein the said first and said second data signal carrying lines of one of said plurality of cable segments includes a plurality of substantially continuous optical fibers.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~2544~~, wherein said first and said second data signal carrying lines of said plurality of cable segments are not connected in series between said first and second cable stations.

16-19 (Canceled).

20. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 424, wherein said first and said second electrical power connectors comprises include an insulated copper cable.

21. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 424, wherein said first and said second electrical power connectors includecomprises a power conductor of a connector cable segment, said connector cable segment comprising one or more lines configured for carrying data signals.

22. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 4425, wherein said first and said second electrical power connectors includecomprises an insulated copper cable.

23. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 2544, wherein said first and said second electrical power connectors includecomprises a power conductor of a connector cable segment, said connector cable segment comprising one or more lines configured for carrying data signals.

24. (New) A system for providing communications between communication devices located on different landmasses, comprising:

a first landmass having at least a first communication device and a first piece of power feed equipment having positive and negative terminals located on the third landmass;

a second landmass separated from said first landmass by a first body of water, said second landmass having at least a second communication device and a second piece of power feed equipment having positive and negative terminals located on the second landmass;

a third landmass separated from said first and said second landmasses by at least a second body of water, said third landmass having at least a third communication device;

a first cable including at least one data signal carrying line carrying data signals between said communication devices of said first and said third landmasses and a first electrical power conductor connected to said positive terminal of said first piece of power feed equipment;

a second cable including one or more data signal carrying lines carrying data signals between said communication devices of said second and said third landmasses and a second electrical power conductor connected to said negative terminal of said second piece of power feed equipment; and

a third electrical power connector, located on said third landmass, permanently connecting said first and said second electrical power conductors such that power is supplied to said first and said second electrical power conductors exclusively by said first and said second pieces of power feed equipment.

25. (New) A system for providing communications between communication devices located on different landmasses, comprising:

a first landmass having at least a first communication device and a first piece of power feed equipment having positive and negative terminals located on the third landmass;

a second landmass separated from said first landmass by a first body of water, said second landmass having at least a second communication device and a second piece of power feed equipment having positive and negative terminals located on the second landmass;

a third landmass separated from said first and said second landmasses by at least a second body of water, said third landmass having at least a third communication device;

a first cable having a first data signal carrying line carrying data signals between communication devices of said first landmass and said third landmass, a first electrical power conductor connected to said positive terminal of said first piece of power feed equipment, and a first repeater electrically connected to said first electrical power conductor;

a second cable having a second data signal carrying line carrying lines carrying data signals between communication devices of said second landmass and said third landmass, a second electrical power conductor connected to said positive terminal of said first piece of power feed equipment, and a second repeater electrically connected to said second electrical power conductor; and

a third electrical power connector, located on said third landmass, permanently connecting said first and said second electrical power conductors such that power is supplied to said first and said second electrical power conductors exclusively by said first and said second power pieces of feed equipment and said first and said second repeaters are powered exclusively by said first and said second pieces of power feed equipment.